

HOUSE BILL 170

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HB 476/03 - W&M

2004 Regular Session  
4r0335

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By: **Delegate Glassman**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2004

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Campaign Expenditures - Payment by Check Card or Debit Card**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a campaign finance entity to pay for campaign  
4 expenditures with a certain check card or debit card; and generally relating to  
5 the payment of campaign expenditures by a campaign finance entity.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article - Election Law  
8 Section 13-220  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2003 Volume and 2003 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article - Election Law**

14 13-220.

15 (a) (1) Each campaign finance entity shall designate one or more campaign  
16 accounts.

17 (2) Each designated campaign account shall:

18 (i) be in a financial institution; and

19 (ii) be registered in a manner that identifies it as the account of a  
20 campaign finance entity.

21 (3) A campaign finance entity shall deposit all funds received in a  
22 designated campaign account.

23 (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection and subsection (c) of this  
24 section, a campaign finance entity may [not] directly or indirectly make a  
25 disbursement [except] by:

1 (I) check from a campaign account designated under subsection (a)  
2 of this section; OR

3 (II) CHECK CARD OR DEBIT CARD ATTRIBUTED TO AN EXISTING  
4 CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT.

5 (2) A campaign finance entity, or a person authorized by the campaign  
6 finance entity, may pay an expense of the campaign finance entity from funds other  
7 than a campaign account if:

8 (i) the expense is supported by a receipt that is provided to the  
9 campaign finance entity; and

10 (ii) the campaign finance entity reimburses the person who paid  
11 the expense by check from the campaign account and reports the expense as an  
12 expenditure of the campaign finance entity in accordance with Subtitle 3 of this title.

13 (c) (1) A campaign finance entity may maintain a petty cash fund.

14 (2) The campaign finance entity shall maintain a separate account book  
15 for the petty cash fund.

16 (3) The petty cash fund:

17 (i) may not exceed \$250 at any time; and

18 (ii) may be replenished only by check from a campaign account  
19 designated under subsection (a) of this section.

20 (4) Not more than \$25 may be disbursed from the petty cash fund in a  
21 primary or general election to a single recipient.

22 (5) Each petty cash expenditure shall be supported by a receipt and  
23 reported by category on the appropriate campaign finance report.

24 (6) This subsection does not authorize an expenditure that otherwise is  
25 unlawful under this article.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
27 October 1, 2004.